Senator Mary Ann Handley Representatives Rojas and Kehoe Connecticut General Assembly Legislative Office Building Hartford, CT. 06106-1591

February 4, 2009

RE: HB 6266 - An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Handley and Representatives Rojas and Kehoe:

My name is Debra Diers. I am a long time resident of Glastonbury and I have had an acupuncture practice in town since 1992. I am writing to ask you to please support House Bill 6266 - An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture. This bill has been recently raised by the Public Health Committee.

HB 6266 provides Title Protection to acupuncturists in our state. This title protection is an important way to inform and protect health care consumers, and identify the unique and specialized credentials of providers with a Connecticut acupuncture license.

- 1) It helps consumers find practitioners who are licensed acupuncturists, trained under nationally-recognized accreditation standards in the modality of acupuncture and oriental medicine.
- 2) It helps patients understand the credentials of the practitioners who are treating them.
- 3) It provides an equitable recognition to state-licensed acupuncturists, giving them the same kind of professional title protection that virtually all other Connecticut health professionals enjoy.

My love of and devotion to this medicine, as well as my concern for my patients and others who are seeking care are of the utmost importance. Well informed consumers are able to make the best choices for themselves and their own circumstances. Title protection for Licensed Acupuncturist is one step in helping people eliminate the confusion that is present when trying to make an informed health care decision. It helps to instill confidence in their choice.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Debra Diers

91 Woodhaven Rd.

Glastonbury, Ct.

633-5395

Cc: Senator Jonathan Harris

Representative Elizabeth Ritter

Co-chairs, Public Health Committee